



ROCKS BRIDGE 1890

*Report of the*  
**Finance Committee**

*See you at*  
**Town Hall**      **MERRIMAC**

FEBRUARY 28, 1966

To the Citizens of Merrimac:

Your Finance Board respectfully submits for your approval their budget recommendations for the year 1966.

Our recommended budget this year is approximately \$91,000 more than last year's budget. About \$52,000 of this amount represents increases in school budgets.

The amount of "Free Cash" in Surplus Revenue available to reduce taxes is \$14,000 less than last year.

Without the necessary information contained in the Cherry Sheet, which will not be available before the Town Meeting, it is not possible to estimate the tax rate for the coming year. However, as this year's budget will be considerably higher than last year's budget, and the amount of "Free Cash" available to reduce taxes will be less, there will be an increase in the tax rate.

The committee appointed by the Selectmen to study wages of Town employees has submitted its report and we have been guided by this report in recommending increases in compensation in some departments.

Department heads have been most cooperative this year in submitting and discussing their budgets. In many instances the amount requested has been adjusted to meet our recommendations with the approval of the respective department heads. However, where a disagreement still exists, the requested amount appears in parentheses preceding the recommendation in our booklet.

We wish to thank Town officials, department heads, the Town Accountant and Selectmen for the excellent cooperation they have given us this year, which has greatly facilitated the preparation of this budget.

Respectfully submitted

James H. Christie  
Raymond E. Emmert  
Edmond L. Hamel, Secretary  
James B. Peirce  
Walter S. Perkins  
Frederick N. Sweetsir, M.D.  
Chairman



# T O W N       O F       M E R R I M A C

## RECOMMENDED EXPENDITURES INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND SPECIAL ARTICLES

	0.46%	Recreation
	0.47%	Library
	0.80%	Cemeteries
	0.94%	Veterans Benefits
	1.33%	Health & Sanitation
	1.95%	Pensions
	2.50%	Unclassified
	3.31%	General Government
	4.63%	Protection Persons & Property
	5.16%	Highways
	5.40%	Public Enterprises
	5.45%	Maturing Debt & Interest
	8.03%	Charities
	59.57%	Schools

# F I N A N C E     R E P O R T

Item No.	Average Expended 1962-1964	Expended 1965		Recommended 1966
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u> 3.31% of total				
1	\$ 12.	\$ 12.	Moderator Salary	\$ 12.
2	77.	100.	Finance Committee Clerical Assistance	100.
3	244.	248.	Expense	355.
4	892.	900.	Selectmen Salaries	900.
5		1191.	Clerical Assistance	1350.
6	661.	763.	Expense	1000.
7		300.	State Census	300.
8	3855.	3900.	Accountant Salary	4340.
9	595.	379.	Clerical Assistance	300.
10	95.	55.	Expense	100.
11	1000.	1000.	Treasurer Salary	1200.
12	17.	100.	Clerical Assistance	200.
13	1513.	2128.	Expense	800.
14	2500.	2500.	Tax Collector Salary	2500.
15	152.	190.	Clerical Assistance	200.
16	888.	590.	Expense	900.
17	435.	435.	Assessors Salaries - Chairman	500.
18	385.	385.	" Clerk	400.
19	310.	310.	" Member	400.
20	808.	780.	Clerical Assistance	950.
21	437.	725.	Expense	700.
22		750.	Law Town Counsel - Salary	750.
23	591.	250.	Expense (Court Cases)	250.
24	533.	600.	Town Clerk Salary	600.
25	100.	100.	Clerical Assistance	100.
26	312.	210.	Expense	610.
27			Public Stenographer	100.
28	553.	160.	Elections and Registrations Wages	520.
29		21.	Expense	73.
30	392.	250.	Registrars Salaries	250.
31		100.	Clerical Assistance	100.
32	128.	45.	Expense	75.
33	400.	400.	Census Takers	400.
34	220.	232.	Planning Board Expense	200.

# T O W N O F M E R R I M A C

Item	Average Expended 1962-1964	Expended 1965		Recommended 1966
Town Hall				
35	799.	834.	Janitor Wages	834.
36	1993.	2000.	Maintenance	2000.
37	732.	600.	Expense - Repairs in, on or Around	825.
38	502.	543.	Bonding Town Officers	550.
39		<u>24086.</u>	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	<u>25744.</u>
<u>PROTECTION PERSONS AND PROPERTY</u> 4.63% of total				
Police Department				
40	5289.	6137.	Salaries Chief (Requested \$6500.)	6032.
41	4174.	4500.	Night Patrolman ( " 4500.)	4400.
42	4064.	5118.	Wages Specials	4657.
43	1030.	1277.	Clerk	1300.
44	1724.	1820.	Expense	2000.
45	333.	500.	Board Prisoners in Amesbury	500.
46		<u>19352.</u>	TOTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT	<u>18889.</u>
Fire Department				
47	650.	650.	Salaries Engineers	650.
48	3770.	3770.	Wages Firemen	4100.
49	200.	200.	Forest Fire Warden	200.
50	3114.	3315.	Expense	3550.
51		<u>7935.</u>	TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	<u>8500.</u>
Board of Appeals				
52			Salary	50.
53	60.	31.	Expense	100.
Inspector of Wires				
54	143.	250.	Salary	250.
55	20.	50.	Expense	50.
Inspector of Gas				
56	117.	250.	Salary	275.
57	41.	50.	Expense	75.
Inspector of Oil Burners				
58			Salary	150.
59			Expense	50.
Tree Department				
60	815.	445.	Wages Tree Warden	900.
61	624.	461.	Expense	600.
62	333.	500.	New Trees	500.
63	782.	800.	Stump Removal	600.
Town Forest				
64	24.	20.	Wages	50.
Moth Department				
65	369.	0.	Wages	200.
66	643.	700.	Expense	700.
Dutch Elm				
67	996.	1328.	Wages	1400.
68	792.	534.	Expense	600.
Dog Officer				
69	100.	100.	Salary	200.
70	286.	296.	Expense	300.
Civil Defense				
71	120.	300.	Salary	300.
72	1403.	1192.	Expense	1200.
73	4	<u>34594.</u>	TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY	<u>35939.</u>

# FINANCE REPORT

Item	Average Expended 1962-1964	Expended 1965		Recommended 1966
<u>HEALTH AND SANITATION</u> 1.33% of total				
Health				
74	1850.	1875.	Nurse Salary	1875.
75	193.	160.	Expense	200.
Board of Health				
76	22.	15.	Animal Burials	100.
77	1197.	4603.	Contagious Diseases--T.B.--Prem. Babes, etc.	2500.
78	169.	171.	Vital Statistics	200.
Inspector of Animals				
79	100.	100.	Salary	100.
80	5.	5.	Expense	10.
Inspector of Milk				
81	20.	20.	Salary	25.
82	5.	5.	Expense	10.
Inspector of Slaughter				
83	20.	20.	Salary	20.
84	5.	5.	Expense	5.
Sanitation				
85	475.	600.	Dump Wages	3640.
86	1902.	1910.	Expense	1695.
87		<u>9489.</u>	TOTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	<u>10380.</u>

## HIGHWAYS 5.16% of total

88	19504.	17611.	Salaries and Wages		
89	41326.	43942.	Expense		
90	4000.	4000.	Road Machinery	Appropriation	Art.# 6 3360.
			" "	Trans. Rd. Mch. Acct.	640.
91	1948.	2439.	Thickly Settled	Appropriation	7 2500.
92	14525.	14525.	Chapter 81	Appropriation	8 5450.
			" "	Trans. Sur. Rev.	9075.
93	12848.	13457.	Chapter 90 Constr.	" Chap. 679 & 782	10 3250.
			" " "	" Sur. Rev.	9750.
94	1500.	1500.	Chapter 90 Maint.	Appropriation	11 1000.
			" " "	Trans. Sur. Rev.	500.
95	16038	13259.	Snow and Washouts	Appropriation	18000.
96	1080.	1600.	Sidewalks	"	1600.
97	7110.	8543.	Street Lights	"	7869.
98	1522	2230.	Rocks Bridge	"	372.
99		<u>61553.</u>	TOTAL HIGHWAYS		<u>63366.</u>

Trans. Surplus Revenue	19325.
" Road Machinery	640.
" Chap. 679 & 782	3250.
Appropriation	<u>40151.</u>
	<u>63366.</u>



# F I N A N C E      R E P O R T

Item No.	Average Expended 1962-1964	Expended 1965		Recommended 1966
<u>CHARITIES</u> 8.03% of total				
				<u>Admx.</u> <u>Assist.</u>
100	5600.	9160.	Administration Salaries	
101	2771.	2426.	Welfare - General Relief	500.    4000.    4500.
102	13101.	20726.	Aid Families Dependent Children	500.    10000.    10500.
103	2559.	9285.	Disability	500.    10000.    10500.
104	16377.	35820.	Medical Aid to Aged	1500.    17500.    19000.
105	60276.	57481.	Old Age Assistance	3000.    15000.    18000.
106		<u>125738.</u>	TOTAL CHARITIES	<u>6000.</u> <u>56500.</u> <u>62500.</u>
<u>VETERANS BENEFITS</u> 0.94% of total				
107	500.	500.	Service Officer Salary	700.
108	200.	200.	Expense	200.
109	89.	150.	Care Veterans Graves	150
110	100.	300.	Soldiers Benefits	
111	1805.	945.	Salaries and Wages	300.
112		<u>2095.</u>	Expense	6000.
			TOTAL VETERANS BENEFITS	<u>7350.</u>
<u>SCHOOLS</u> 59.57% of total				
113	120227.	148142.	Elementary Salaries and Wages	171182.
114	22015.	28671.	Expense	26690.
115		<u>176813.</u>	Total Elementary School	<u>197872.</u>
116		4887.	Special Class Tuition and Transportation	6632.
117	23822.	24670.	Lunch Program	
118	4316.	4580.	Vocational Tuition and Transportation	5710.
119	205143.	233888.	Pentucket Regional School Assessment	253210.
120		<u>444838.</u>	TOTAL SCHOOLS	<u>463424.</u>
<u>LIBRARY</u> 0.47% of total				
121	2495.	2694.	Librarian Salary and Wages	3315.
122	1642.	2402.	Expense	2800.
		<u>5096.</u>		<u>6115.</u>
		-1136.	Less Estimated Income	-2465.
123		<u>3960.</u>	TOTAL LIBRARY	<u>3650.</u>
<u>RECREATION</u> 0.46% of total				
124	929.	880.	Playground Wages	1000.
125	931.	892.	Expense	1300.
126	900.	900.	Supervised Play Salaries and Wages	1000.
127	300.	300.	Christmas Parade	300.
128		<u>2972.</u>	TOTAL RECREATIONS	<u>3600.</u>
<u>PENSIONS</u> 1.95% of total				
129	8990.	14688.	Essex County Retirement	15138.
			TOTAL PENSIONS	



# T O W N   O F   M E R R I M A C

Item No.	Average Expended 1962-1964	Expended 1965		Recommended 1966
<u>UNCLASSIFIED</u> 2.50% of total				
130	821.	874.	Town Reports	800.
131	368.	400.	Memorial Day Expense	400.
132	500.	500.	Veterans Quarters Rental	500.
133	7347.	7997.	Insurance	9100.
134			Reserve Fund	5000.
135	1793.	2394.	Lighting Town Buildings	2852.
136	700.	700.	Water in    "        "	700.
137			Tax Title Possessions - Repairs	100.
138		<u>12865.</u>	TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	<u>19452.</u>
<u>PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISES</u> 5.40% of total				
Water Department				
139	150.	150.	Salaries       Commissioners	150.
140	2392.	2324.	Superintendent	2340.
141	1200.	1200.	Clerk	1474.
142	13214.	14824.	Wages       Laborers	20660.
143	12726.	<u>15160.</u>	Expense	<u>17396.</u>
144		<u>33658.</u>	TOTAL PUBLIC ENTERPRISES	<u>42020.</u>
<u>CEMETERIES</u> 0.80% of total				
Cemetery				
145	233.	350.	Salary       Clerk and Chairman (Requested\$500.)	400.
146	4437.	6730.	Wages       Laborers	5000.
147	2122.	<u>2608.</u>	Expense	<u>4383.</u>
		<u>9688.</u>		<u>9783.</u>
		<u>-3532.</u>	Less Interest Trust Funds	<u>-3533.</u>
148		<u>6156.</u>	TOTAL CEMETERIES	<u>6250.</u>
<u>MATURING DEBT AND INTEREST</u> 5.45% of total				
Debt				
149	17000.	17000.	Elementary School	17000.
150	5000.	5000.	Elementary School Addition	5000.
151			Water Meters	4000.
Interest				
152		4680.	Maturing Debt	5370.
153		600.	Temporary Loans	
154			New School	11000.
		<u>27280.</u>	TOTAL MATURING DEBT AND INTEREST	<u>42370.</u>
155		691571.	Total Budget Recommendations	765658.
156		16126.	Total Recommended Special Articles	33873.
157		25018.	Total Recommended Transfers	24165.
158		<u>732715.</u>	TOTAL ALL RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING TRANSFERS	<u>823696.</u>

# T O W N   O F   M E R R I M A C

## SPECIAL   ARTICLES

Article 2. Authorization for Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money.

RECOMMENDED

Article 3. Authorization for Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to sell at public auction property taken by the Town under Tax Title procedure.

RECOMMENDED

Article 4. Authorization of the Selectmen to sell any property taken by the Town until 1967 annual Town Meeting.

RECOMMENDED

Article 5. Authorization of the Assessors to use a sum of money from "Free Cash" in the Treasury toward the reduction of the 1966 Tax Rate.

RECOMMENDED \$60,000.

Article 6. Road Machinery Account.

RECOMMENDED	Trans. E&D	\$ 640.
	Approp.	3360.

Article 7. Thickly Settled streets.

RECOMMENDED \$2500.

Article 8. Chapter 81 Highway Construction and Maintenance.

RECOMMENDED	Trans. E&D	\$9075.
	Approp.	5450.

Article 9. To accept proceeds from Chapter 679 of the Acts of 1965 (State funds used for construction of roads), Merrimac's share to be \$8,272.20..

RECOMMENDED

Article 10. Chapter 90 Highway Construction.

RECOMMENDED	Trans. E&D	\$9750.
	" 679&782	3250.

Article 11. Chapter 90 Maintenance.

RECOMMENDED	Trans. E&D	500.
	Approp.	1000.

Article 12. To transfer the sum of \$950.00 from the sale of Cemetery Lots to "Care, Improvement and Embellishment " of Cemeteries.

RECOMMENDED

Article 13. To appropriate a sum of money from the Electric Light operating balance for Tax reduction for the year 1966.

RECOMMENDED	Town Bldgs. & St. Lgts.	\$10720.
	Light Dept.	5000.

# F I N A N C E R E P O R T

Article 14. To appropriate \$500.00 for Plot plan for sewage disposal plant.

RECOMMENDED

Article 15. Selectmen to file application to aid in defraying cost of sewage treatment Public Law 560 as amended by Public Law 345, 84th Congress.

RECOMMENDED

Article 16. Acceptance and establishment of a Development and Industrial Commission.

RECOMMENDED

Article 17. Appropriate money for expense of Development and Industrial Commission.

RECOMMENDED - \$50.

Article 18. Obtain benefits under Provisions of the United States Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 and appropriate sum of money to defray expenses in connection therewith.

RECOMMENDED - \$100.

Article 19. Purchase of automatic sand spreader for Highway Department.

RECOMMENDED - \$2500.

Article 20. Purchase dump truck for Highway Department.

RECOMMENDED - \$5000.

Article 21. Appropriate cost of waterproofing south side of Town Hall.

RECOMMENDED - \$1800.

Article 22. Skating rink and basketball court on land adjacent to Church Street cemetery.

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR RECOMMENDATION

Article 23. Completing the relocation of the Town refuse disposal area on Battis Road.

RECOMMENDED - \$1500.

Article 24. Moving the chain link fence from former Mill Street dump to the tree dump on Middle Road.

RECOMMENDED - \$300.

Article 25. Petition of Maurice Carey and others for full time Police Department.

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR RECOMMENDATION

Article 26. Funds for above petition of Maurice Carey and others for full time Police Department.

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR RECOMMENDATION

Article 27. Purchase from Richard E. Sargent parcel of land containing eight acres of land for \$500.

RECOMMENDED



# T O W N     O F     M E R R I M A C

Article 28. Replacement of five wells at the present well fields, at a cost of \$2,000.

RECOMMENDED

Article 29. Appropriation of \$200,000. to establish a new water supply and distribution system.

NOT RECOMMENDED PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION

Article 30. Appropriation of \$5,065.51 to install an eight inch water main on Winter Street from Prospect Street to the residence of P. Nelson Gile.

RECOMMENDED

Article 31. Appropriation of \$2,248.19 to install an eight inch water main on Pine Street from Spring Street to Winter Street.

RECOMMENDED

Article 32. Petition of Francis J. Mathews and others regarding holiday pay for police officers.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Merrimac by extending the commercial zone to include the land bounded as follows:

NORTH by land of Fred Smith;  
WEST by School Street;  
EAST by the proposed Route 495 access road;  
SOUTH by Bartlett Street;  
or take any action in connection therewith

NOT RECOMMENDED

Article 34. Action to be taken regarding the "Old Boy Scout Hall".

NOT RECOMMENDED AS ARTICLE AMBIGUOUS

# FINANCE REPORT

## STATUS OF THE SURPLUS REVENUE (E & D) ACCOUNT

Jan. 1, 1965

191,343.59	Credit Balance
<u>69,370.07</u>	Deduct Uncollected Taxes
121,973.52	Available Free Cash

Recommended to be used to reduce taxes  
and for specific purposes

74,000.00	Surplus Revenue
10,936.22	Light Dept., Street Lights and Town Bldgs.
<u>9,176.10</u>	Available Balances
94,112.32	

Jan. 1, 1966

155,861.89
<u>58,136.47</u>
97,725.42

60,000.00
<u>15,720.39</u>
7,226.00
<u>82,946.39</u>

## BORROWING CAPACITY OF THE TOWN JANUARY 1, 1966

### Real and Personal:

Valuation 1963, less abatements	5,340,172.00
" 1964, " "	5,141,345.00
" 1965, " "	10,600,375.00

### Motor Vehicles:

Valuation 1963, less abatements	869,828.00
" 1964, " "	925,755.00
" 1965, " "	960,773.00

Net valuation for 3 years, less abatements  
Average valuation for 3 years, less abatements  
5% thereof (debt limit)

23,838,248.00
<u>7,946,082.00</u>
397,304.00

### Existing Town Debt Inside Debt Limit

Elementary School (1952 - 39,000.)	Balance	11,000.00
New Addition (1960 - 75,000.)	"	50,000.00

61,000.00

Borrowing Capacity January 1, 1966

336,304.00

## EXISTING TOWN DEBT

### Outside Debt Limit, Principal

Elementary School (1952 - 300,000.00)	Balance	90,000.00
Pentucket Regional School (1956 - 777,935.00)	"	456,851.00
Water Meters		40,000.00

### Inside Debt Limit

Elementary School (noted above)	"	61,000.00
		<u>647,854.00</u>

### Interest on Above

Inside Debt Limit - Elementary School	762.50
" " " - Elementary School Add.	9,250.00
Outside " " - Elementary School	6,750.00
" " " - Pentucket Reg. School	106,886.00
" " " - Water	<u>7,150.00</u>
	130,798.50
	<u>778,652.50</u>

Reimbursements will be received from the State of Massachusetts  
on principal only at the following rates:

Elementary School	50%
Elementary School Addition	50%
Pentucket Regional School	65%

# T O W N   O F   M E R R I M A C

## TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE FUND 1965

Appropriation			\$3000.00
April	Bonding Town Officers	43.00	
July	Police	400.00	
September	Water Meters	412.50	
November	Insurance	18.00	
	Interest	400.96	
December	Fire Damage Special Account	425.00	
	Police	263.99	1963.45
	Balance in Account December 31, 1965		<u>\$1036.55</u>



# F I N A N C E R E P O R T

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
TOWN HALL  
MERRIMAC, MASS.**